

Shoshana Grove, Secretary
Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Ave, NW, Suite 200
Washington DC 20268-0001

April 30, 2015

PRC Case #A2015-2

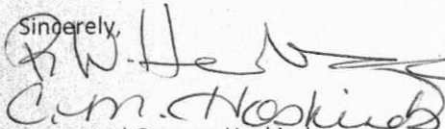
Dear Ms. Grove,

We are residents and business owners in Careywood, Idaho and have been deeply affected by the closure of our local post office.

As a small business, we had come to depend on the USPS for safe, secure delivery of our client payments and shipment of delicate, one of kind manufactured parts. Carrie Bartelt allowed us to feel confident that she would handle these packages with care and personal attention. We have not had that confidence in the past with USPS, and are currently not having that confidence with the Athol USPS. Unfortunately, we have had to turn to Fed Ex again to ship our packages, at an excessive cost to us as a small business and a loss to the USPS of our shipping dollars.

In addition, we are now traveling an extra 14 miles to pick up our mail and packages. Not only is this yet another financial burden for us, but a huge and very real safety issue for us during the winter. The stretch of highway between Careywood and Athol is notoriously icy and we often make the choice to stay home and miss an activity or shopping trip in the name of safety. As you can imagine, our online purchasing goes up substantially during the winter and we are now forced to specifically request Fed Ex or UPS as our preferred shipping method.

The reasons for closure as presented to us as a community are not based on truths. Our postmistress, Carrie Bartelt, has stated that she is willing to be in discussion with USPS regarding her contract. She is more than interested and committed to seeing our Careywood post office remain open and continue the excellent level of service. The Careywood residents are completely supportive of keeping the post office open. The highway expansion for this area is an extremely far off plan, without current funding. We fail to understand how the USPS is saving any funds by closing an office with increasing sales, increasing customer base and a dedicated postmistress with a successful background in retail and finance. Add to that the support of a tight knit, rural community and we feel the USPS had a most excellent business model here in Careywood. Please consider reversing this decision for closure to the benefit of the USPS and the residents of Careywood.

Sincerely,

Roger and Carmen Hoskinds
Hoskinds Enterprises
PO BOX 8
Careywood, ID 83809